

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Based on comments received on the US 31 Kokomo Corridor Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), Alternative J Modified has been developed to improve upon the DEIS Alternatives. Like each of the DEIS alternatives, this alternative improves safety, reduces travel time through the corridor, and is consistent with statewide and regional long range transportation plans. Alternative J Modified incorporates several design changes, including a shift of the middle segment of the alignment, the addition of one interchange, and geometric improvements to another, resulting in improved safety, increased access, and fewer environmental impacts compared to the alternatives presented in the DEIS.

Increased environmental impacts, due to the addition of an interchange at Touby Pike, are limited to prime farmland and potential cumulative impacts to wetlands. Alternative J Modified reduces stream impacts and increases access to the facility.

Alternative J Modified has the potential to help drive the economic growth of the area while limiting overall environmental impacts.